



# *The Redeemer*

## *Review*

Proclaiming Christ into the 21st Century

Volume 6

June, 2004

### **Stewardship: Time and Talent**

Christian stewardship is an important part of our life at *Our Redeemer's*. As faithful disciples of Jesus Christ, we realize that all we have is God's, and that we are merely stewards, caretakers of these gifts.

Not long ago in a Sunday message I spoke about three areas of stewardship that are important for all of us. The first was **soul work**; the work of growing spiritually and in our relationship with others and with God. The second was **house work**; the work we do as a local church to care for each other and to fulfill our ministry potential. Finally, I spoke of **kingdom work**; the work of answering the Biblical call to help those in need and to work for love and justice in a broken world. In the past four years we have tended to our **soul work** through Bible study and covenant groups, in worship, in service activities and with a commitment to our prayer life. At other times we emphasized **kingdom work** as we asked each of you to commit to a ministry of love and justice outside of our church family. We continue to see these ministries grow.

This last month we focused on the third area of stewardship. We asked each of you to contribute to the **house work** at *Our Redeemer's* so that we might more fully and effectively minister to our community and our world. Your response was truly amazing. At our 3 commitment Sundays **26** of you volunteered to help with Sunday School next year; **18** offered to help with our youth ministry; **32** offered to help with our vacation Bible school in August; **13** offered to help organize and teach in our adult education program and **over 100** offered to help in different leadership capacities with worship (and this is only a partial list).

During the summer and early fall we will be organizing these many activities and be calling on each of you for your help in our ministry together. With the overwhelming response it may take a while for us to contact each of you, but please be patient with us. Again, thanks to each of you for your commitment and thanks be to God for the ministry at *Our Redeemer's*.

Grace and Peace,  
*Pastor Bill*



**Summer worship times will be**

**9:00 and 10:30  
from  
June 14 - August 22.**

### ***Redeemer Review***

Published Monthly by  
*Our Redeemer's*

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**Summer Services at 9:00 and 10:30 am**

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**Church Secretary:**

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## **Angel of the Month Holly Easterbrook**

*by Bev Wilkes*

**Holly** is a long time member of *Our Redeemer's* along with her husband, **Dave**, and children, **Rachel**, **Jeremiah** and **Hannah**. She has supported almost every group and most individuals that she meets besides taking care of her family and working.

Holly has been an active member of the UMW and one year took on the tremendous job of being Co-Chairperson of the Rumage Sale.

For many years she was responsible for the painting of scenery and props for Vacation Bible School and play productions. Holly always asks anyone getting a new washer or dryer to save the boxes for her!

She has helped with the delivery of toys for the Gift from the Heart program, but her biggest job was being the Head Usher for a few years. Holly would keep track of the ushers, make sure they were trained, offer everyone a schedule, inform us about the acolytes, put all the supplies together and sub for missing ushers.

One of her biggest accomplishments was in the *Our Redeemer's* Bowling League. Holly started with an average of about 60 and in her last year managed to bowl a 198! She even had witnesses!

Holly has always been a very hard worker and a great friend to many. It is our hope that many more people will emulate her by taking even just one job and doing it as well as she has. Her shoes will be very hard to fill.

## Summer Worship Series

This summer our Worship Team has organized a sermon series based on the Lord of the Rings by J.R.R. Tolkien. Many modern stories (both in books and films) touch on Christian themes that can help us grow in our faith. Tolkien's powerful story about good and evil, love and sacrifice is no exception.

Below you will see the topics for each Sunday of the 6-week series. Most are based on certain characters in the story (Gandalf, Frodo, Sam, Legolas and Gimli). While the others will look at the themes of imagination and celebration.

For those of you who have not seen the movies or read the books, do not worry, each message will use this creative story to help us examine our own faith.

### Introduction

**Sunday, July 18**

*Christian Faith and the Religious Imagination*

### Tolkien and Soul Work

**Sunday, July 25**

Gandalf and Frodo: *Power and Humility*

**Sunday, August 1**

Gollum: *Good and Evil: All in One Package*

**Sunday, August 8**

Sam: *Hope Beyond Hope*

### Tolkien and Kingdom Work

**Sunday, August 15**

Legolas and Gimli: *Who is My Neighbor*

**Sunday, August 22**

Frodo: *Sacrificial Love*

**Sunday, August 29**

The Birthday Party *Jesus at the Party.*



### Appalachian Service Project Update

On June 12, thirty-nine youth and adults will leave for Kentucky to work on the Appalachian Service Project. This discipleship program of the United Methodist church allows our youth and adults to practice ministry and grow spiritually by doing home repair for those who have financial needs.

This year our group has grown by 14, which has amazed us all. We still need your support. With the increased numbers that are participating and the rise in gas prices, we still are in need of sponsors to help fund our trip.

If you are interested in being part of this program by sponsoring us please contact the church at 847-882-6116 or complete a sponsorship form on Sunday morning.

Thank you.

*Pastor Bill*



*by Sue Bruneau*

## Parents & Students

It's hard to believe the school year is coming to a close. Do you know what that means? No more Sunday School for most of you. But, we welcome everyone to join in worship each Sunday with a special children's message from Pastor Bill. We look forward to seeing you in worship.

Just a reminder: June 6th is the Children's Program and also Teacher Appreciation Sunday. Want to make your teacher feel appreciated? Say a few kind words, or bring (or send) them a Thank you note.

## Teachers

Thank you so much for your special gifts and your time in teaching our children this school year. We are blessed to have all of you. Have a great summer!

## Summer Camp

Don't have plans for the summer? Do you get bored going swimming every day? How about a week of camp with other Christians your age? Every week is a different theme. Brochures are in the narthex and the office if you're interested in a fun week/weekend of camp. Camp is for all ages, and it's for families also. Scholarships are also available. Call **Sue Bruneau** with questions: 847-882-6116.

## Attention Parents, Teachers, & Students

Don't forget! June 6th is the year-end Children's Program. This is when each class is performing separately. In the past, we have had some wonderful skits, songs, and videos. We realize this is a camping weekend, so if you are not camping we would like all children to stay to perform at the second service (if possible) and then can leave after their class has finished. Thank you in advance for your co-operation.



**Summer  
Sunday  
School**

At the end of the school year we would like to thank all of our regular Sunday School teachers for all of their hard work. Regular teachers will be enjoying the summer off.

Children 1st grade and up will be attending worship with their family. At press time we almost have enough parent volunteers to offer summer Sunday School to children 2 years old to kindergarten from June 13 to August 22.

Summer Sunday School will be offered at 9:00 a.m. in the Rainbow room. There will NOT be Sunday School on July 4. If you have any questions or would like to help with Summer Sunday School, contact **Amy Meyer** at 847-882-6116.



Our ASP group will be heading to Chavies, KY, on the 12th of this month! We are very excited to be taking so many people on this amazing journey this year—thanks to all who have made it possible!

Our summer programming begins this month and it will be a very laid back schedule. We are going to try some new things and some new times and see how it goes, so please bear with us!

The confirmation classes will be taking a break this summer—look in future newsletters to see when that will start up again.

As for Sr. High, the summer schedule is as follows:

June:

- 12 Leave for ASP
- 19 Return from ASP
- 21 Breakfast with the Rock 9:30am at church

July:

- 9 Carom tournament 7-10pm
- 11 ASP Sunday
- 21 Picnic lunch at Gray's Farm Park 12pm



## Calling All Graduates!

If you are graduating from 8th Grade, High School or College this spring, we would like to know about it. We will need your name and the name of your school. Please call the church office or email us soon with your information. You will be recognized on June 27th.



## June Birthdays

- |       |                  |
|-------|------------------|
| 06/04 | Mark Nordli      |
| 06/06 | Morgan Higgins   |
| 06/13 | Robert Nordli    |
| 06/13 | Daniel Shaw      |
| 06/13 | Meghan Taylor    |
| 06/15 | Vanessa Clermont |
| 06/17 | Lindsey Miller   |
| 06/18 | KC Kulpathipanja |
| 06/21 | Kellee Conquest  |
| 06/21 | Billy Esposito   |



## Vacation Bible School Notes

*When: August 2 - 6*

*Time: 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.*

We are looking for volunteers for:

- Teachers
- Craft Station Leader
- Snack Station Leader
- Outside Activities Leader
- Music Assistant

As well as assistants for all of the above.

Please call **Michelle Hill** at 847-882-6116 or e-mail at:

[michellehill@wideopenwest.com](mailto:michellehill@wideopenwest.com) if you are interested in helping.

High School students are encouraged to be involved with VBS. All materials and lessons are provided.

**Amy Meyer** will be organizing a van service for those children who need a ride to and from VBS. Please call the church office, 847-882-6116, if your child needs a ride.



**ORUMC**  
**Family**  
**Camping**

*June 25-27*

*White Pines State Park*

All members and friends of *Our Redeemer's* are invited to join in our Family Campouts. The June 25-27 campout is at White Pines State Park near Mt Morris, IL.

Reservations have already been made, but if you decide to attend at the last minute, space may still be available. Contact **Mark** or **Tracy Torgerson** at 847-882-6116 for information about getting reservations at White Pines.

*July 16-18*

*Hi Tide Campground*

The July 16-18 campout is at Hi Tide campground in Leland, IL. Hi Tide is a great hot weather spot with a good swimming lake. We'll enjoy the hot weather and chicken and corn-on-the-cob for our Saturday potluck supper.

Call **Joe and Diane Rocha**, 847-882-6116, for information and to make reservations.



## Potato Drop Successful

Sean Keenan, an Eagle Scout candidate from Scout Troop 295, worked with Conference Hunger Advocate, Joe Royston and the Society of St Andrew to organize a "Potato Drop" at *Our Redeemer's* on May 1.

Sean organized 130 volunteers to unload a semi load of potatoes (49,500 pounds, to be exact). Food pantries from around the area came and the volunteers loaded the potatoes into their vehicles.

At 5:30 Saturday evening there was still an impressive pile of potatoes in the parking lot, but they were gone Sunday morning. The last truck picked up the rest of the potatoes by 8:00 p.m. Saturday.

Congratulation to Sean for organizing the project. Thanks to all of you for helping with Sean's Potato Drop project and for your continued support of the Society of St Andrew and the United Methodist Men's Meals for Millions Program.

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## UMM Pizza

Thanks to all who purchased UMM Pizzas. We built 168 pizzas (and ate one). By the time you see this they should all be gone.

Profits will support various UMM mission projects.



## Community Crisis Center

As the summer months approach please bring in gently used or new swim suits for Moms and kids. The Park District gives the center passes for the local pool, and swim suits and pool shoes are needed. Please leave these items in the basket in the Narthex.

### *Cellular Phones*

There is a new clear bin in the back of the church by the Crisis Center bin. The Community Crisis Center is collecting cellular phones. The phones will bring in anywhere from \$1-\$25 for the center. Accessories are not needed just the phones.

In these times of dwindling federal, state and local funding, social service organizations must look for options for funding. Your help in gathering used cellular phones is greatly appreciated.

If you can help place a box for phones at your place of employment and would like a container or if you would like a complete list of items needed for the center, please contact **Robin Erickson** at 847-882-6116.

## United Methodist Women June 10, 6:30 p.m.

Calling all “Mothers, Daughters and Dolls” All women (and daughters) of the church are invited to join us for our Annual Salad Supper on Thursday, June 10th at 6:30 p.m. in the Wesley Room.

Everyone should bring a salad to pass and a favorite doll to “show-off.” There is always a wonderful assortment of salads, which makes this one of our favorite meetings of the year.

Also, look forward to an entertaining program on dolls. This will be our last meeting until September, since we will take a vacation from meetings in July and August.



We are entering the “driest” season for Schaumburg Township and other food pantries. Food donations dwindle in late spring and through the summer. Please help to feed our hungry neighbors in the name of Christ. Special needs for the month of June include: rice, spaghetti sauce, canned fruit, oatmeal, jello, fruit juice, napkins and Kleenex. “Freely, freely, you have received, freely, freely, give.”



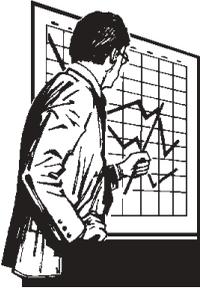
## Rummage Sale THANK YOU!

Thank you to EVERYONE who helped set up, donate, price, arrange, rearrange, clean, fix, deliver, sell, and clean up for the UMW RUMMAGE SALE. Without all of your diligent efforts this event could not happen. I also want to extend a Special Thank you to the Boy Scouts who were there to set up and to clean up.

We sent swim suits to the Elgin Crisis Center and jewelry, special silver and china to the Elgin Crisis Center Resale shop. We sent 10 boxes of books to the library, 11 boxes of clothing to Church World Service, 8 boxes of clothing to Prison Release Men’s Program, 6 boxes of clothing to Prisoner Release Women’s Program and over 100 boxes of various items and furniture to Salvation Army.

We made a profit of approximately \$4,800.00 which will be given to various charities that will benefit the neighborhood and the world.

Again, Thank you!  
**Sherrie Cottrell**



## Finance Committee Update

*Our Redeemer's* financial health is modestly challenging at the end of April, 2004. Even though our income is below budget, we have been able to meet all of our obligations and expenses without using the Sprint Cross Tower income, since expenses are also below budget.

Expenses were below budget by 6 %, but Total Income was below budget by 5 %. The net result is an increase of \$221 on the balance in the checkbook.

Total Budgeted Income for 2004 is \$380,470. Our main source of income is from Envelope Giving and Pledges (88% of the total or \$332,950).

Total Budgeted Expenses for 2004 are \$365,630.

As of the end of April, our Income from Pledges and Envelopes is \$101,729 or 7% below expectations. As we enter the summer season it is important that we keep our pledges current.

It is the goal of the Finance Committee to cover our expenses without using the \$24,000 Sprint Income from the Cross Tower.

We can support *Our Redeemer's* mission better if we have the Sprint Income available to expand ministries, for example, for the addition of a position such as second pastor or Christian education leader.

### Actual vs. Budget YTD April 2004

Category	Actual	Budget	\$ Change	% Change
Regular Envelope Income	101,729	108,855	(7,126)	-7%
Other Budgeted Income	10,342	8,786	1,556	18%
Total Budgeted Income	112,071	117,641	(5,570)	-5%
Total Budgeted Expenses	111,850	118,927	(7,076)	-6%
Net Income (Loss)	221	(1,286)	1,506	



## Meals for Millions

The United Methodist Men of *Our Redeemer's* have been associated with the Society of St. Andrew since 1994. Since 1994 the people of *Our Redeemer's* have raised over \$18,000 to help feed the hungry.

The following was received from the Society of St. Andrew in recognition of our contributions.

*Dear Friends:*

*Congratulations! Your church has reached the Extra Mile Partner Church level in ministry with the Society of St. Andrew. Our records show that you have given a total of \$2,068.92 in 2004. This amount provides 200,000 of fresh fruits and vegetables to hunger relief agencies that work every day with people in need. Thank You!*

*The Extra Mile Partner level, \$1,700, represents 170,000 pennies, which if laid side by side, would stretch two miles. I am pleased to send you a Partner Church certificate seal for "going the extra mile". Please affix the seal in that section of your certificate.*

*Your continued partnership is crucial to our ministry as we rescue food from the abundance available to feed our hungry neighbors. With your financial help, our joint efforts are feeding people in the name of Jesus Christ.*

*We continue to ask for your prayers as we all seek to be obedient to Christ's command, "You give them something to eat." (Lk. 9:13) Twenty-five years ago the Society of St. Andrew began with a vision of a world without hunger. We continue that vision today working toward Bridging the Hunger Gap between the bounty of our land and the 35 million Americans who often may struggle to have enough to eat. Thank you for your faithful and prayerful support of our ministry on behalf of the people who benefit from your generosity.*

We also received a certificate acknowledging Our Redeemer's contributions to the Society of St. Andrew.

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## NASCAR Volunteers

The United Methodist Men are looking for volunteers to work at the NASCAR track in Joliet on July 9, 10 or 11. Volunteers will earn \$7 per hour for the Prison Release Ministry, a mission that has been supported by UMM for many years.

Volunteering means committing an entire day (or days) at the track plus one evening for training. You can volunteer to be an usher or bag checker. Training is at the track from 6 to 8 p.m. on June 16, 17, 21, 24 or 28. The training dates available depend on the job you volunteer for. PRM will get \$7 per hour for your training, too.

If you would like to volunteer, contact **Dave Frederick** at 847-882-6116 ASAP. Dave must send in all volunteer names by June 3!

# Personal Notes



## Recovering at Home

**Fred Rickleff**, our second pastor at *Our Redeemer's*, is home recovering from 4 way bypass surgery on April 16th. If you would like to send a card to Fred and Doris they are at:

1112 Skogdalen Drive  
Stoughton, WI 53589

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## Lovell Retirement Open House

**Rev. Peter Lovell**, former associate pastor at *Our Redeemer's* and currently the District Superintendent of the Rockford District is retiring at the end of June.

**Peter** and **Pricilla** will be honored at a Farewell Open House at Grace UMC in Rockford on June 27 from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. All are invited.

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## Richard Vales New Address

Richard Vales, our unofficial missionary in the Philippines, has moved. His new address is:

Richard Vales  
Unit 1  
62 Andress Abellana Street  
Barangay Guadalupe  
Cebu City Philippines 6000



Our deepest sympathy to **Suzanne Todd** on the death of her son, **Owen Todd**. Condolences may be sent to:

Suzanne Todd  
871 Willow Creek Drive  
Akron, OH 44333

You can email Suzanne at:  
[suzanne.todd@usa.net](mailto:suzanne.todd@usa.net)

Our deepest sympathy to **Mary Busch** on the death of her husband, **Richard Busch**. They are residents of Friendship Village who have been attending our 11:00am Service. Condolences may be sent to:

Mary Busch  
350 W. Schaumburg Road  
D161  
Schaumburg, IL. 60194

*Our Redeemer's United Methodist Church*  
1600 W. Schaumburg Road  
Schaumburg, IL 60194-3900

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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



**Summer Worship Schedule  
9:00 and 10:30 a.m. Starting June 13**